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3. (Twice Amended) The invention of claim 2 or 51, further comprising:
a first data-over-voice modem coupled with the controller; and
a second data-over voice modem coupled with the server;
wherein the access line couples the first data-over-voice modem with the second data-over-voice modem.

4. (Twice Amended) The invention of claim 2 or 51, further comprising:
a premises gateway coupled with controller; and
a digital subscriber line access multiplexer coupled with the server;
wherein the access line couples the premises gateway with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer.

7. (Twice Amended) The invention of claim 2 or 51, further comprising a data network coupling the controller with the server.

10. (Twice Amended) The invention of claim 2 or 51, wherein the server is configured to be coupled with a central office.

11. (Twice Amended) The invention of claim 2 or 51, further comprising:
a telephone; and
a user-interface controller coupled with the telephone and the access line.

12. (Twice Amended) The invention of claim 2 or 51, further comprising:
a personal computer; and
a multiplexer coupled with the personal computer, the controller, and the access line.

15. (Amended) A home automation system comprising:

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a home automation controller located in a customer premises;
a first data-over-voice modem coupled with the controller;
a second data-over voice modem;
an access line coupling the first data-over-voice modem with the second data-over voice modem; and
a home automation server, located remotely from the customer premises and coupled with the second data-over voice modem, comprising a home automation application operative to control operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller;
wherein the home automation controller controls operation of the load by sending a request to the remotely-located home automation application, and wherein the home automation application sends a control signal to the load in response to the request sent by the home automation controller.

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17. (Amended) A home automation system comprising:

a home automation controller located in a customer premises;
a premises gateway coupled with controller;
a digital subscriber line access multiplexer;
an access line coupling the premises gateway with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer;
a home automation server, located remotely from the customer premises and coupled with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer, comprising a home automation application operative to control operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller;

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wherein the home automation controller controls operation of the load by sending a request to the remotely-located home automation application, and wherein the home automation application sends a control signal to the load in response to the request sent by the home automation controller.

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19. (Amended) A home automation system comprising:

first means, located in a customer premises, for controlling an operation of a load coupled with said first means; and

second means, coupled with and located remotely from said first means, for sending a command to said first means to control said operation of said load;

wherein said first means controls operation of said load by sending a request to said second means, and wherein said second means sends a control signal to said load in response to the request sent by said first means.

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21. (Amended) A home automation controller comprising:

device control means; and

first means for sending a request to a remotely-located home automation application to control a load coupled with the device control means; and

[first] second means [, coupled with the device control means,] for receiving a command from [a] the remotely-located home automation application to control an operation of [a] the load [coupled with said controller;] and

[second means, coupled with the device control means,] for using the device control means to control said operation of said load.

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23. (Amended) A home automation controller input device comprising:
a display;
an input device coupled with the display; and
means, coupled with the input device, for [communicating with a remotely located home automation application], via an access channel, sending a request to a remotely-located home automation application to control a load and for receiving a signal to control the load from a remotely-located home automation application in response to the sent request.

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25. (Amended) A home automation method comprising the steps of:
(a) sending a request for controlling operation of a load from a home automation controller in a customer premises to a remotely-located home automation application;
([a]b) in response to the request sent by the home automation controller, sending a command[,] to [a] the home automation controller in [a] the customer premises from [a] the remotely-located home automation application [located remotely from the customer premises,] to control [an] the operation of [a] the load [coupled with the home automation controller]; and
([b]c) using the home automation controller, [to control said] controlling the operation of [said] the load in response to [said] the command.

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33. (Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for home automation, the computer readable program code means comprising:

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first computer readable program code means for [sending a command, to a home automation controller in a customer premises from a home automation application located remotely from the customer premises, to control an operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller] sending a request to a remotely-located home automation application to control a load; and

second computer readable program code means for [using the home automation controller to control said operation of said load in response to said command] receiving a signal to control the load from a remotely-located home automation application in response to the sent request.

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51. (New) A home automation system comprising:

a home automation controller located in a customer premises;

a home automation server, located remotely from the customer premises, comprising a home automation application operative to control operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller; and

an access line coupling the home automation controller with the home automation server;

wherein the home automation controller controls operation of the load by sending a request to the remotely-located home automation application, and wherein the home automation application sends a control signal to the load in response to the request sent by the home automation controller. --

-- 52. (New) The invention of claim 51, wherein the controller comprises device control means. --